

## Message Text

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21 11

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 MC-02

COME-00 EB-11 TRSE-00 L-03 /053 R

DRAFTED BY:EUR/NE:SPDAWKINS

APPROVED BY:EUR/NE-MR ANDREWS

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R 282253Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMCONSUL BELFAST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 194100

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS- EI UK ETRN

SBUJ: EXPLOSIVES TO BELFAST

1. LATE AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 28 A MR. COWAN OF "AIR TRANSPORT" IN HOUSTON, TEXAS CALLED IRISH DESK AT DEPT TO ASK IF HE WOULD FACE UNUSUAL PROBLEM IN FLYING A C-135 CHARTER AIRCRAFT TO BELFAST LOADED WITH EXPLOSIVES. IN REPLY TO DEPTOFF'S QUERIES, COWAN AND ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL SAID THE EXPLOSIVES WERE -OIL WELL SHAPED CHARGES" EXEMPT FROM MUNITIONS CONTROL PROCEDURES AND DESTINED FOR HALIBURTON CO. AIR TRANSPORT HAD NOT, COWAN SAID, FILED FLIGHT PLANS OR CONTACTED BRITISH AUTHORITIES YET AND WOULD NOT DO SO UNTIL HIS COMPANY HAD DECIDED WHETHER OR NOT TO MAKE FLIGHT. DEPTOFF POINTED OUT HAZARDS INVOLVED AND GAVE STANDARD WARNING ON TRAVEL TO NORTHERN IRELAND. COWAN SOUNDED SURPRISED AND EXPRESSED CONCERN WHEN DEPTOFF RECOUNTED IRA THREAT TO CLOSE DOWN BELFAST AIRPORT.

2. DEPTOFF PLANS TO CALL COWAN BACK OCTOBER 1 TO SEE WHAT HIS DECISION IS AND ALSO, HOPEFULLY, TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NATURE OF SHIPMENT AND CONSIGNEE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 28 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** worrelsw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** EUR/NE:SPDAWKINS  
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**Executive Order:** GS ANDREWS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** worrelsw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
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